IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of: -Bates et al.

Serial No.:

09/630,976

Confirmation No.:

7828

Filed:

August 2, 2000

For:

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Group Art Unit: 2155

Examiner: Duong, O.

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Technology Center 2100

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on October 13, 2003 with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria NA

October 13, 2003

Gero G. McClellan

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 15, 2003

In response to the Office Action dated July 15, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on October 15, 2003, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 09-0465, the fee of \$86.00 for the addition of one (1) independent claim or for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

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